



City & County of Canterbury.

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# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1919.

CITY OF CANTERBURY.

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SANITARY COMMITTEE, 1919.

*Mayor :*

Councillor H. G. JAMES.

*Chairman :*

Councillor J. McCLEMENS.

Alderman W. WILTSHIER.	Councillor P. R. FINN.
„ R. A. BREMNER.	„ L. K. PRENTICE.
„ W. G. DICKINS.	„ W. J. RUSSELL.
„ H. J. BELSEY.	„ J. G. B. STONE.
Councillor R. H. ARROWSMITH.	„ F. WEST.

*Town Clerk :*

HENRY FIELDING, ESQ.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

FRANK WACHER, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

SAMUEL JEFFERY, C.R.S.I.

Census 1911.

Population, 24,621.

No. of Houses in Borough, 5,669.

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1919.

1911.	1919.
Population Census 24,621 ...	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-right: 10px;">{</div> <div> <div>For Births ... 23,186.</div> <div>For Deaths ... 22,258.</div> </div> </div>
Area of District 3,976 acres	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-right: 10px;">{</div> <div> <div>No. of persons per acre, 6.1</div> <div>No. of persons per house, 4.3.</div> </div> </div>
Births, Nett ... 387.	Birth Rate ... 16.6 per 1,000.
Average Birth Rate for six years—1914 to 1919—18.69.	
Deaths, Nett ... 363.	Death Rate, Nett ... 16.3
Average Death Rate for six years—1914 to 1919—15.85.	
Deaths under 1 year of age—Nett, 24. Infantile Mortality 62.	
Average Rate for six years—1914 to 1919—73.	
Excess of Births over Deaths—24.	

### 1919.

#### Statistics for England and Wales.

Birth Rate ...	18.4.
Death Rate ...	13.8.
Infantile Mortality ...	89 to 1,000 births registered.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF CANTERBURY.

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**The Forty-Third  
ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**For the Year ending December the 31st, 1919.**

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To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my 43rd Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the past year.

**Births.**—The total number of births registered during the year 1919 was 393, 194 of which were males and 199 females. There were 5 inward and 11 outward transfers, making the nett number of births 387. There was a decrease of 72 births under last year, of 10 under 1917, and of 14 under 1916.

**Birth Rate.**—The nett Birth Rate of the total estimated population for 1919, for the purposes of Birth Rate, viz., 23,186, would be 16.6 per 1,000. For England and Wales it was 18.4 for 1919.

**Deaths.**—The total number of deaths registered during 1919 was 390, 208 of which were males and 182 females. There were 17 inward and 44 outward transfers, making the nett number of deaths 363. There was a decrease of 35 deaths on 1918 and of 90 on 1917.

**Death Rate.**—The nett Death Rate of the estimated civil population for 1919, viz., 22,258, would be 16.3 per 1,000. The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1919 was 13.8.

The nett increase of births over deaths was 24.

There were 24 deaths under 1 year of age ;

7 deaths of 1 year and under 2 ;

13 deaths of 2 years and under 5 ;

16 deaths of 5 years and under 15 ;

18 deaths of 15 years and under 25 ;

59 deaths of 25 years and under 45 ;

77 deaths of 45 years and under 65 ;

and 176 deaths of 65 years and upward, making a  
total of 390.

TABLE I. **Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1919 and previous Years.**

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.				
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1914	24,531	466		19'04	344	14'02	42	7	28	60	209	12'5
1915	24,595	498		20'24	483	19.2	79	7	54	108	411	16'71
1916	24,595	527	529	21'5	426	17'3	72	9	34	64	363	14'7
1917	24,103	405	401	16'6	440	20'3	90	8	37	92	358	16'5
1918	25,089	467	459	18'2	542	21'6	134	7	24	52	415	18'4
1919	23,186	393	387	16'6	390	17'5	44	17	24	62	363	16'3

**Measles and Scarlet Fever.**—From these diseases not a single death occurred.

**Diphtheria** caused three deaths, one of 1 and under 2, two of 5 and under 15 years of age—two less than last year.

**Erysipelas** caused one death of 45 and under 65 years of age—two less than last year.

**Whooping Cough** caused five deaths, one of 2 and under 5, one of 5 and under 15, and three under 1 year of age—  
increase, four.

**Influenza** caused 38 deaths, 37 in the first quarter and 1 in the second: viz., 8 in January, 15 in February, 19 in March, and 1 in April: two of 2 and under 5, one of 5 and under 15, four of 15 and under 25, twenty of 25 and under 45, and four of 45 years of age and upwards (10 of these were outward transfers)—decrease 65. One inward transfer of Influenzal Tonsillitis.

**Enteric and Typhoid Fever.**—Nil—one less.

**Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.**—Nil—decrease three.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**—From this disease 22 deaths were registered (nine less), five of 5 and under 15, seven of 15 and under 25, eight of 25 and under 45, and two of 45 and under 65 years of age. One of these was a soldier, an outward transfer. There were four inward transfers.

**Tuberculous Meningitis** caused one death of 1 and under 2 years of age.

**Other Tuberculosis Diseases** caused one death of 15 and under 25 years of age—four less.

**Meningitis** caused one death of 1 and under 2 years of age—one more.

**Rheumatic Fever.**—Nil—same.

**Cancer, Malignant Disease,** caused 39 deaths, one of which was an outward transfer, viz., four of 25 and under 45, 17 of 45 and under 65, and 18 of 65 years of age and upwards—decrease, seven. There was one inward transfer.

**Organic Heart Disease** caused 50 deaths, three of which were outward transfers, two of 15 and under 25, five of 25 and under 45, sixteen of 45 and under 65, and twenty-eight of 65 years of age and upwards. Decrease, one.



**Bronchitis** caused 27 deaths, one under 1, one of 1 and under 2, one of 2 and under 5, one of 25 and under 45, four of 45 and under 65.

**Pneumonia** (all forms) caused eleven deaths, two under 1, two of 1 and under 2, two of 2 and under 5, one of 15 and under 25, one of 25 and under 45, and three of 65 years of age and upwards—decrease, 23. There were two inward transfers.

**Other Accidents and Diseases of Parturition.**—Nil—25 and under 45, two of 45 and under 65, and six of 65 years of age and upwards. One of these was an outward transfer—decrease, 7.

**Puerperal Fever** caused one death of 25 and under 45 years of age—stationary.

**Appendicitis and Typhilitis** caused two deaths, both outward transfers, one of 25 and under 45, and one of 15 and under 25 years of age—decrease, 1.

**Cirrhosis of Liver** caused 2 deaths, both of 45 and under 65 years of age—increase, 1.

**Alcoholism.**—Nil—stationary.

**Nephritis and Bright's Disease** caused six deaths, viz., one of 5 and under 15, one of 15 and under 25, three of 45 and under 65, and one of 65 years of age and upwards—increase, 1.

**Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide,** caused sixteen deaths (seven less), two of 2 and under 5, four of 5 and under 15, two of 15 and under 25, four of 45 and under 65, and four of 65 years of age and upwards. Two of these were outward transfers, and there were two inward transfers.

**Suicide** caused five deaths, one of 15 and under 25, two of 25 and under 45, and two of 45 and under 65. Two of these were outward transfers—increase, 2. One inward transfer from drowning.

**Senile Debility** caused 54 deaths (increase 13), viz., six between 90 and 100, 23 between 80 and 90, 24 between 70 and 80, and one between 60 and 70 years of age, and there was one inward transfer.

**Other Defined Diseases** caused 74 deaths, 12 of these were outward transfers, three of 1 and under 2, five of 2 and under 5, three of 5 and under 15, one of 25 and under 45, 18 of 45 and under 65, and 35 of 65 years of age and upwards. There were three inward transfers.

**Diseases ill-defined or unknown** caused five deaths—decrease 2, viz., two of 25 and under 45, two of 45 and under 65, and one of 65 years of age and upwards. Four of these were outward transfers, and there was one inward transfer.

### INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under 1 year of age was 24—a decrease of 2 on 1918, of 14 on 1917, and of 26 on 1916.

The nett infantile mortality, measured by the number of deaths under 1 year of age to 1,000 births registered, was 62.

The rate for England and Wales in 1919 was 89 to 1,000 births registered.

**Premature birth** caused 3 deaths—decrease 2.

**Bronchitis.**—1—decrease 3.

**Pneumonia.**—2—increase 2.

**Diarrhœa, Enteritis, and Gastro-Enteritis.**—3—increase 2.

**Convulsions.**—2—decrease 2.

**Marasmus.**—2.

**Infantile Debility.**—2—decrease 1.

**Syphilis Congenital.**—1.

**Intestinal Ulcer.**—1—increase 1.

**Malformation.**—2—increase 1. One of these lived 10 minutes.

**Whooping Cough.**—3—increase 3.

**Peritonitis.**—1.

**Deficient Inherent Vitality.**—1.

Not a single infant death from Abdominal or other Tuberculous Diseases.

Nett births in the year	{	Legitimate, 387.
	{	Illegitimate, 35.

Nett Deaths in the year	{	Legitimate infants, 23.
under 1 year	{	Illegitimate infant, 1.

Out of the 35 illegitimate births only one died from Gastro-Enteritis, aged 3 months.



## INFLUENZA.

Influenza caused 38 deaths, and was epidemic during January, February, and March, 1919; 37 died in the first quarter and one in the second. There were three deaths in January, 15 in February, 19 in March, and one in April—decrease 65; 10 of the deaths were soldiers and outward transfers. There was one inward transfer.

Weekly deaths from Influenza.

In the week ending:—

January 4th, 1 death occurred.  
 January 11th, 2 deaths occurred.  
 February 15th, 1 death occurred.  
 February 22nd, 4 deaths occurred.  
 March 1st, 10 deaths occurred.  
 March 8th, 10 deaths occurred.  
 March 15th, 6 deaths occurred.  
 March 22nd, 2 deaths occurred.  
 March 29th, 1 death occurred.  
 April 5th, 1 death occurred.

**Age Distribution.**—1 of 1 and under 2, 2 of 2 and under 5, 1 of 5 and under 15, 4 of 15 and under 25, 20 of 25 and under 45, 6 of 45 and under 65, and 4 of 65 years of age and upwards.

**Sex Distribution.**—Males 20, including 11 Soldiers. Females 18, double the civilian males.

**Probable Number of Cases, 1000.**—Out of the 38 deaths, 31 were complicated with Pneumonia and Broncho-Pneumonia, 3 with Bronchitis, 3 with Heart Trouble, and there was only one uncomplicated case.

**Precautions.**—The Cinemas were closed to children under 15; the Public Elementary and Sunday Schools were closed for 3 weeks. A pamphlet on Influenza was issued and widely distributed. Precautions to be taken:—

- (1) The golden rule is to keep fit, and avoid infection as much as possible.

- (2) The way to keep fit is to cultivate healthy and regular habits, to eat good food, and to avoid fatigue, chill and alcoholism. Healthy living does not of itself ensure against attack, but it makes the patient better able to withstand the complications which kill.
- (3) The early symptoms of Influenza are usually those of a feverish cold. Though the actual cause of the Disease is unknown, we do know that it is rapid in onset, that it is most infectious in the early stages, and that it is spread by discharge from the mouth and nose, and that it kills mainly by its complications. Every person suffering from the Disease, no matter how mild the form, is a danger to others, and should be kept in bed for a few days.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases notified under the Tuberculosis Act was 39—23 males and 16 females, excluding 4 military cases and 13 school children. Numbers stationary: 34 Pulmonary, and 5 Non-Pulmonary. 10 received Sanatorium treatment, 16 Dispensary treatment, and 16 Domiciliary treatment. Out of the notified cases of 1919, 8 died—5 females and 3 males; 6 males and 2 females were arrested, and 23 benefited. As regards the treatment of Tuberculosis:

- (a) The Canterbury Tuberculosis Dispensary continues to do a large amount of valuable work in the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis.
- (b) The Lenham Sanatorium is completed, and is now open for male patients. The City have 10 beds in this Institution. I have visited all the notified cases in their homes monthly, and gave directions as to precautions to be taken to prevent the infection spreading, and have had any sanitary defects in the home remedied.
- (c) The Male and Female Shelters at the Union are being used with good effect.
- (d) Institutional treatment for advanced cases is much needed as a preventative, these being more infectious than early cases, and the Small Pox Hospital would be an ideal place for these cases, with shelters erected if it could be staffed.

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1920.

Summary of Notifications during the year 1919, in the City and County Borough of Canterbury.

AGE PERIODS:	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up- w'ds	total	Number of Cases notified on Form C.	
													Poor Law Institution.	Sanatoria.
Pulmonary Males ...	—	—	2	1	—	4	7	5	1	2	—	22	—	10
Pulmonary Females ...	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	5	2	—	—	13	2	—
Non-Pulmonary Males ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Females	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Totals ...	—	—	4	1	—	6	12	10	3	3	—	39	2	10

## HEALTH VISITOR.

The indefatigable Health Visitor, Mrs. Maguire, has been working all the year at high pressure, and the time will come shortly when she will require assistance. I append her report:—

A—Visits of Births.—Primary : 394. Re-visits : 1,547.

Re-visits to Children over 1 year.—1,017.

B—Notification of Deaths of Infants not seen under A.—2.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.—16. From 1 year to 5 years : 9.

C.—Ante-Natal.—Primary : 73. Re-visits : 331.

D—Infectious Diseases. — Measles : 16. Whooping Cough : 42. Chicken Pox : 17. Diphtheria : 10. Ophthalmic Neonatorum : 3. Tuberculosis : 29.

The services of the " District Nurse " have been of immense value.

**Ante-Natal Clinic held every Tuesday, at 2.30 p.m.** Members 55 ; attendance 914.

**Received Medical Advice.**—Ante-Natal, 30 ; Post-Natal, 27.

**Thrift Club.**—Paid in during the year, £40 5s. 1d.

**Clothing Club.**—Where members can obtain material at cost price, and garments are made up free by the Ladies' Working Party.

**Drugs and Patent Foods, etc.**—Sold at cost price.

**Infant Consultation Clinic, every Thursday, 2.30 p.m.**—M.O.H. attends at 3.0 p.m. Total Attendances, 1,696 ; Medical Advice, 134.

**Successfully Operated upon.**—In own homes or Hospital, 32.

**Visits paid by the M.O.H. on behalf of Health Visitor,** 135.

**Milk supplied free to Necessitous Cases.**—Ante-Natal and Post-Natal, 10 ; Infants, 12 ; Children under 5 years, 6.

**Cost Price.**—Post-Natal Cases, 4 ; Children, 12.

## **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DAY NURSERY.**

This institution continues to do good work. I visit the Nursery weekly and examine the children and advise as to their feeding and physical condition. Number of children attending the Nursery: weekly attendance, 38. The Nursery was closed for four weeks in August for Whooping Cough and for a week at Christmas. The grant from the Council for the work is very small and might be increased.

## **MIDWIVES ACT.**

The Midwives' homes have been visited. The equipments kept by them have been examined, the kits inspected, and all found in good order. At present there are seven Midwives practising in Canterbury.

## **VENEREAL CLINIC.**

The work at the Venereal treatment centres has increased so as to require two Medical Officers—one for females and one for males. Number of persons treated, 248—190 males and 58 females. Total number of attendances within Canterbury area, 613; Kent, 781; Glasgow, 4; London, 6. Total, 2,074 attendances. Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given, 671.

The Local Committee of the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease arranged a most successful meeting for men only at the Oddfellows' Hall. The lecturer was Dr. H. Wachter, and the hall was crowded to its utmost capacity. The lecture was so much appreciated that it was printed as a pamphlet and copies found a ready demand.

The Committee also arranged for a lecturer to address a large meeting for women, organised by the Women Citizens' Association, which was held at the Guildhall.

In December the work of the Committee was re-organised, and propositions were made for more systematic propaganda, especially in the direction of sex education.

I am indebted to the Rev. P. A. L. Clarke, Master of Eastbridge, the Hon. Secretary, for the above notes.



### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of chief Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1919 was 184, as follows:—

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Poliomyelitis.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Measles.	German Measles.	Pneumonia.	Malaria.
1918	9	76	2	27	3	8	—	6	265	56	—	—
1919	14	75	2	10	1	2	—	—	5	3	36	26
Increase	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease	—	1	—	17	2	6	—	6	260	53	—	—
Military Cases	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—

Total Decrease, 268.

The largest increase over 1918 is Scarlet Fever—3. Pneumonia and Malaria are notified for the first time. The cases of malaria were all among demobilized soldiers.

### ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The number of deaths notified from Zymotic Diseases was 9, as follows:—Diphtheria, 3; Whooping Cough, 5; Erysipelas, 1; Enteric Fever, nil; Measles, nil; Scarlet Fever, nil.

The Zymotic death rate was 0.4 per 1,000.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

The number of cases treated at the Sanatorium was 86, as follows:—Diphtheria, 72; Scarlet Fever, 14.

One death occurred of a patient suffering from Diphtheria.

The accommodation was sufficient, the institution being at all times in good order, under the efficient supervision of the Matron.

### Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1919.

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c. :—Isolation Hospital within the District.  
City of Canterbury Corporation Sanatorium.

Small Pox Hospital unoccupied, no cases of Small Pox having occurred during the year.

The number of children vaccinated, 96, and re-vaccinated 4, performed by the Vaccination Officer, Dr. B. Rigden.

## HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

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### 1919.

The inspections under the Housing Regulations were commenced towards the end of the year, after a lapse of some 18 months.

The number of inspections was 31. Of these, in the case of 24 houses, closing orders were made after representations had been made by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector that they were in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation.

Owing to the shortage of houses within the City area, it is impossible to serve notices upon the occupiers to cease to inhabit these houses at the present time.

The chief work during the year was the survey necessary to estimate the number of houses required, in reply to Form D. 89, which was filled in and returned to the Government Department concerned early in January, 1920. After very careful consideration at the Public Health Committee and the Housing Committee, the Council came to the decision that 150 new houses were required, 100 consisting of living room, scullery, and 3 bedrooms: 50 of the parlour type, consisting of parlour, living room, scullery, and 3 bedrooms, with bathroom in each house.

I am informed that the Ministry of Health are preparing a guide to Inspectors as to what is required, so that a house may be reasonably fit for habitation. At the present time, standards differ widely in various parts of the country. If possible, a definite working standard should be established throughout the country.

NAME OF STREET.	GENERAL CHARACTER OF DEFECTS FOUND.									
	No. Inspected.	No. of Houses unfit for habitation.	No. of Representation to the Local Authority.	No. of Closing Orders made.	No. of Houses Remedied without Closing Orders.	No. of Closing Orders Determined.	No. of Houses dealt with under Public Health Act.	No. of Houses not Requiring Remedying.	No. of Houses dealt with under Section 15.	
Delesaux Square...	12	12	12	12	—	—	—	12	—	Defective drainage, roof, walls, plaster and floors dilapidated.
Northgate Street	4	4	4	4	—	—	—	4	—	Defective drainage, insufficient sanitary accommodation, defective roof, walls, paving to yard. No sinks or coppers.
Rose Lane Square	8	8	8	8	—	—	—	8	—	Courtyard, bad light, insufficient sanitary accommodation. Bad arrangement of houses.
Pound Lane ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	Want of proper sanitary accommodation, no sink or copper, drain defective.
Orange Street ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	Defective drainage, roof, paving, want of flushing apparatus to W.C.'s.
Abbot's Place ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	Defective drainage, roof, walls damp, want of flushing apparatus to W.C.'s

The Public Health Committee allowed the owner of Bourne's Yard to alter the present tenements—8 in number—into 3 cottages, as per plan submitted.

The inspections during 1919 have been curtailed owing to pressure of other work and the effort to reduce expenditure on structural alterations.

Plans for new houses are submitted for approval of the Council through the Roads and Survey Committee, the inspection being subsequently carried out by the Surveyor's Department.

No plans were submitted or houses built during 1919.



### FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

The number of inspections made during the year was 101, viz.: Factories, 10; Workshops and Work-places, 91; also a number of visits while repairs were in progress.

24 Preliminary Notices were served to abate nuisances, as follows:—

Particulars.	No. of Defects Found.	No. of Defects Remedied.	Prosecutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—			
Want of Cleanliness ...	7	6	
Want of Proper Drainage to Floors ...	4	3	
Other Nuisances ...	7	7	
Sanitary Accommodation Insufficient ...	11	7	
Sanitary Accommodation Defective ...	15	13	Nil.
Offences under the Factory Acts—			
Breach of the Sanitary Requirements as to Bakehouses ...	5	4	
Totals ...	49	40	Nil.

Four reports were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. The occupier's attention was called to the matters, when they were immediately remedied.

Two Underground Bakeries are registered in the City. These, on inspection, were found in good order. One Underground Bakehouse has been abolished.

Number on Register end of Year, 1919.

Factories ...	No. 54
Workshops—	
Bakehouses ...	49
Outworker Premises ...	27
Other Workshops ...	206
	282
Total ...	336



## MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Mr. Brian Rigden reports that he has examined all entrants, leavers, and all children between 8 and 9 years of age; also those children with defects presented to him by the teachers. 1,088 children (540 boys and 548 girls) have been examined during the year 1919. Out of the 1,088 children examined 704 had one or more defects and 304 were perfectly sound. The perfectly sound are increasing in numbers each year, and the weights of the children are increasing.

## THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

All the 11 Elementary Schools have been visited for three different purposes. (1) For the Medical Inspection; as a rule it is not possible to examine more than 20 in the school afternoons. (2) For the examination of the Buildings and Sanitary arrangements. (3) To see what action the parents have taken in regard to the defects reported to them on my first visit. In the event of no action having been taken, a second notice is sent them. But with the exception of the teeth, it is surprising how few there are of these.

**CLOSING OF SCHOOLS.**—All the schools were closed owing to Influenza from March 3rd to March 24th; as several of the Staff, already depleted by the military service, were affected, it would have been very difficult to carry on.

**ST. DUNSTAN'S SCHOOLS** were closed from May 12th to May 26th for Diphtheria.

**ST. MARY BREDIN'S INFANT SCHOOL** was closed from August 11th to August 15th for Whooping Cough.

In conclusion I beg to call attention to the following facts which are brought out in my report.

**First.**—The decrease in the birth rate, which I hope is only temporary, was 18.6. The birth rate for England and Wales was 18.4.

**Secondly.**—The decrease in the death rate, viz., 16.3 for 18.4 for 1918, which would have been much lower had it not been for the 38 deaths from Influenza—which accounts for 1 per 1,000 in the death rate.

Thirdly. —The decrease in the infant death rate from 26 1918 to 24 for 1919. The infant mortality during the year 1919 was 62 to 1,000 births registered. For England and Wales 89 to 1,000 births registered. The average infantile deaths for the past 6 years was 77.

Fourthly. —The low zymotic death rate, viz., 0.4 per 1,000, against 0.6 last year, which shows a decrease. I beg leave to thank Mr. Jeffery, the Sanitary Inspector, for the valuable assistance he has offered me, and Mrs. Maguire, Miss Fielding, and the Voluntary Workers at the Maternity Child Welfare and Day Nursery Centres for all the willing help they render me there.

I remain,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK WACHER,  
Medical Officer of Health.

RANMORE,

*March 7th, 1920.*

## REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1919.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Canterbury.

AIR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure herewith in presenting to you my report and summary of work done during the year 1919.

The number of inspections and visits are set out in the following tables. Some difficulty has been experienced owing to shortage of labour. The notices served have been directed to the abatement of urgent nuisances injurious to health; no large amount of structural alterations being requested.

20 Statutory Notices and 152 Preliminary Notices were served to abate nuisances.

The carrying out of urgent sanitary repairs has been delayed many times during the year owing to want of materials, such as earthenware pipes, iron soil pipes and w.c. pans and traps.

The Council, upon the recommendations of the Public Health Committee, towards the end of the year ordered certain w.c.'s to be provided with adequate means of flushing, this is a forward step. I therefore trust that owners of cottage property will, when making alterations or repairs to existing w.c.'s, provide a suitable waste water preventor connected to the w.c. pan.

During 1919 Local Authorities were requested to take drastic action in the destruction of rats; every effort should be made to carry this out. It is estimated that 75 per cent. of the rat nuisance in urban areas is caused by defective drains, culverts, etc. Occupiers of premises, where defective drains are noted, should immediately report the nuisance to the Sanitary Authority.

PARODY.

Don't let the rats rat. Death to them all.  
So kill off the old ones; before the house fall.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant

SAMUEL JEFFERY.

*Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute.*

*Meat Insp.*

*Advt. Hygiene Board of Education.*

*Member Sanitary Inspectors' Association.*

## RETURN OF SANITARY WORK FOR 1919.

Nos. of premises Inspected (Public Health Acts).	...	374
"    "    "    (Infectious Diseases).	...	91
"    "    "    (Factories and Workshops).	...	68
"    "    "    Dairies, Cowsheds, and		
Milkshops.	... ..	33
"    "    " <i>Re</i> Rat Order	... ..	23
"    "    "    Bakehouses.	... ..	33
"    "    "    Slaughterhouses.	... ..	335
"    "    "    Food Control.	... ..	366
Visits <i>re</i> Sale of Food and Drugs Act.	... ..	118
"    "    Samples of Water—Public Supply	...	8
"    "                                Private Supply	...	8
"    "    Sale of Food Stuffs.	... ..	99
No. of Dwelling Houses inspected (Housing and Town		
Planning Act).	... ..	31
<i>Re</i> Inspections, calls made, etc.	... ..	2745

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Total Inspection and Calls ... .. 4332

Preliminary Notices served.	152	No. complied.	148
Statutory Notices served.	20	No. complied.	13
Complaints received. 67.	Verbally.	10.	In writing. 57
Letters written.	119.		

Particulars. Drains tested. Water. 159. Smoke. 251.  
Chemical, 107.—517.

Drains found defective. Water. 38. Smoke. 89.  
Chemical. 51—178.

## IMPROVEMENTS.

Drains. Re-constructed	... ..	54
Repaired	... ..	97
Soil pipe or ventilation pipes repaired or		
provided	... ..	41
Gulley or other Traps fixed	... ..	129
Water Closets or Closets—		
W.C.'s provided with pan trap and water supply	...	50
Pan and trap provided	... ..	102
Water supply provided	... ..	51
Cleansed or pail repaired	... ..	100
Ventilated	... ..	15
Cesspools abolished	... ..	—
Urinals Cleansed or Water supply provided	... ..	—
Sanitary Dustbins provided	... ..	2

Yards—Paving repaired	...	...	...	...	68
Yards—Paving provided	...	...	...	...	24
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	16
Water supply provided to dwelling house	...	...	...	...	22
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	—
Other Improvements—					
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	43
Walls repaired for dampness	...	...	...	...	29
Floors repaired or ventilated	...	...	...	...	17
Roof repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Guttering repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Rooms Disinfected...	...	...	...	...	203
Miscellaneous Improvements	...	...	...	...	117
Total Improvements					1205
Total Premises Improved					302

### Summary of Prosecutions during the Year.

Nature of Offence.	No of Summons.		Fines, etc.
Food and Drugs Acts	...	2	£3 0 0
Diseased Meat	...	—	—
Non-compliance with Notices:			
Public Health Acts	...	2	9 0
Costs allowed. Work carried out.			
Breaches of Food Controller's Orders	15	...	£51 10 0
Totals	...	19	£54 19 0



### Inspection of Food.

131 inspections of Slaughterhouses and Food Depots were made during the year 1919.

The inspection of Food Stuffs has engaged a large part of your Inspector's time, it having been decided to sell part of the diseased meat for purposes other than human food. The meat is cut and treated with carbolic fluid before being sold.

The special circumstances of the War has, no doubt, tended to diminish the amount of prime beef, etc., on the market.

Food Orders are still in force allotting home-killed meat to each butcher in proportion to his 1917 sales.

I am pleased to say, however, that up to the present time an application has not been received to sell horse-flesh for human consumption in Canterbury.

During the year a greater percentage of meat sold has been inspected, under the arrangements made to comply with the Food Orders. It has been found necessary to slaughter a large proportion of the animals at two central slaughterhouses.

The carcasses are then sent to adjoining districts, the major portion, however, has been supplied to the butchers in the City's area.

It was not necessary to seize any unsound or diseased food stuffs during the year, the whole of the foods surrendered were either found during the preparation of such foods, or examined upon request of the owners.

The very large amount of meat destroyed is accounted for the Government Slaughterhouse on the Dead Weight basis, being situated at Canterbury during 6 months of the year.

A Sub-Committee has now been formed to inspect the Registered and Licensed Slaughterhouses in the City area, several of which require large structural alterations to place them in a sound sanitary condition.

	Licensed	Registered.
No. of Slaughterhouses on Register...	6	13
No. of Slaughterhouses in use at present time ... ..	5	10

The following table shows the diseased or unsound food stuffs surrendered during the year 1919.

# CLASSIFIED CONDEMNED FOODS, 1919.

No. of animals diseased or unsound food stuffs examined	DESCRIPTION.	DISEASES.	Weight in lbs.
13	Whole Carcase of Bullock and Offals.	Tuberculosis 10 Dropsy 2 Unsound 1	5,353
19	Part of Bullocks Carcase and Offals.	Tuberculosis 15 Injuries 2 Unsound 1 Actinomycosis 1	4,555
223	Bullocks Offals.	Tuberculosis 109 Actinomycosis 8 Destoma Hepin. 92 Cysts 6 Unsound 4 Abscesses 3 Pleurisy 1	4,304
3	Carcase of Sheep & Offals.	Unwholesome 3	461
59	Sheeps Offals.	Rufesens & Iluke 53 Echinococcus 6	160
8	Carcase of Pig & Offals.	Tuberculosis 8	895
12	Pigs Offals.	Tuberculosis 12	130
12	Veal.	Various 12	563
9	Bacon.	Unsound	1,693
13	Dates (91 boxes).	Unsound	5,579
1	Fish.	Unsound	14
3	Meat Pies.	Unsound	25
4	Butter.	Unsound	160
5	Canned Meat.	Unsound	42
6	Tinned Foods.	Unsound	545
1	Rice.	Unsound	6 cwts.
1	Oatmeal.	Unsound	2½ cwts.
3	Potatoes.	Unsound	24 cwts.

# SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS' ACT.

The number samples submitted to Public Analyst during the year was 118.

Samples obtained	Formally	Informally	Total	No. Adulterated	Action taken
Sample 323.					Deficient in fat 13%. Vendor cautioned.
" 336					contained 8% of extraneous water. Vendor summoned. Fined £2 0s. 0d.
" 334.					Deficient in fat 15%. Further samples taken. See Nos. 338, 339, 342, 345, 346 set out below.
" 338.					Deficit in fat 11% } Taken at place of delivery Informal
" 339.					" " 28% } to vendor of sample No. 334 " " " 11% " Appeal to Cow" sample
" 340.					" " upon request of vendor, Sample No. 336
" 342.				9	Deficit in fat 7%. Taken at place of delivery
" 345.	44	8	52		to vendor of Sample No. 334 ... " " Deficit in fat 6% " Appeal to Cow" upon request of vendor of Sample No. 334 ...
" 346.					Deficit in fat 9% Taken at place of delivery
" 385.					to vendor of Sample No. 334 ... " " Deficit in fat 8% Vendor cautioned to use more care in mixing milk before small sales
Whisky ...	...	5	8	6	Sold below strength as set out for the price paid in the Spirits (Prices) Order, Food Control

Beer ...	...	8	—	8	—	—	Sold below gravity. Food Control Order. Vendor cautioned.
Cocoa ...	...	—	4	4	—	—	Nil
Sausage Meat ...	...	—	7	7	—	—	To be sanitary all sausage meat should be wrapped in grease-proof paper
Cornflour	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Self-raising Flour	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Gin ...	...	2	—	2	—	—	"
Olive Oil	...	—	1	1	—	—	"
Cheese ...	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Coffee ...	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Cream ...	...	—	1	1	—	—	"
Baking Powder...	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Rice ...	...	—	3	3	—	—	"
Butter ...	...	1	4	5	—	—	"
Margarine	...	—	6	6	—	—	"
Jam ...	...	—	3	3	—	—	"
Ice Cream	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Lard ...	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Tea ...	...	—	2	2	—	—	"
Spirits of Sweet Nitrate ...	...	2	—	2	—	—	Proper strength as set out in British Phar- macopæia
Totals	...	62	56	118	16		

### "Appeal to Cow" Samples.

Sample No. 334 was purchased from a small retailer of milk, and was found deficient in fat 15%. Upon informing the vendor, she requested that further samples be taken of the milk as supplied to her by a local farmer. The milk was being delivered, afternoon's and morning's milk in separate churns, about 9 a.m. each day. Several samples were taken of this supply, as set out below, with varying results in the quantity of milk fat present. Eventually it was decided that the vendor be cautioned.

No. of sample	Procured at	Taken from large Churn.	Taken from small Churn	Date	Milk Fat	Non Fatty Solids	Total Solids
338	Place of delivery.	Yes	—	8/7/19	2'66	8'84	11'50
339	"	—	Yes	8/7/19	2'17	8'86	11'03
342	"	Yes	—	10/7/19	2'80	8'64	11'44
343	"	—	Yes	10/7/19	3'32	8'66	11'98
344	At Farm	Yes	—	11/7/19	3'20	8'72	11'92
345	"	—	Yes	11/7/19	2'83	8'89	11'72
346	Place of deliv'	Yes	—	12/7/19	2'72	8'92	11'64
347	"	—	Yes	12/7/19	4'30	8'81	13'11

Standard. Milk Fat 3'00. Non Fatty Solids 8'50, below which it is presumed milk is adulterated.

### Water Supply.

Sixteen samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year.

Eight procured from the "Public Supply" were of good quality.

Eight procured from private supplies. Two of these were reported as unfit for drinking purposes. The owners of the two houses from which these were procured, upon being written to, gave instructions for a supply to be provided from the public main. This had now been carried out.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. JEFFERY.